

Remarks

Claim 21 originally depended from claim 22. This has been corrected.

Claims 1-6, 8-13, 15-24, 26-31, and 33 were rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by Isu et al. In response, the Applicants have amended their claims to better recite what the Applicants regard as their invention. In particular, the above claims have been amended to include the limitations of:

- calculating one or more sum of absolute differences between pixel values of the plurality of pixels along one or more edges of the macroblock and pixel values along corresponding bordering edges of adjoining macroblocks of the image slice; and
- labeling as suspicious any macroblock of the image slice for which the one or more sum of absolute differences is greater than the threshold level.

Analysis of Isu reveals that Isu fails to teach or otherwise suggest the use of individual pixel values to compute the SAD across the boundary. Instead in a first embodiment Isu uses a set of first and second level differences ("change degrees") to detect an error. In a second embodiment, Isu fails to use the SAD on the pixel values themselves, instead Isu applies the SAD between the average pixel values of neighboring blocks.

Regarding all other claims, because these claims depend from allowable base claims, all other claims are in proper condition for allowance.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references. As the Applicant has overcome all substantive rejections given by the Examiner the Applicant contends that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's rejections to the pending claims. Therefore, the Applicant

respectfully requests allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter. Finally, please charge any fees (including extension of time fees) or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502117.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ishtaq, ET AL.

by: 

Kenneth A. Haas
Reg. No. 42,614
Phone: (847) 576-6937
FAX: (847) 576-3750